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Dear Cyril,

Thanks for your letter. I appreciate it. And by the most remarkable of coincidences, this morning I decided that I should write you - for an unreflected reason. Before going into that I ask you please not to talk about it because I want no more interruptions. I have too many as it is.

As soon as I saw the news stories on Lundberg's press conference and then Breo's crap in JAMA, I decided to do a book on that atrocity. Putting it in context provides me with an opportunity to employ what I think of as intellectual judo. One aspect is using quote a few documents that for the most part have not been published. I have a rough draft of that part of the book done. I fear very rough. But it is on paper. I've established a file of the documents - use, I have it at hand, and if when you visit in Washington you'd like to see them stop off.

I had two copies of the JAMA articles. I'd read and highlighted one. Based on the highlighting I cut the other copy up into sections to have at hand when I write, so I can quote without having to thumb through all of it. As I did this I was impressed still again by the ignorance of forensic science and I'm sure of forensic pathology flaunted by all those ignoramuses. Especially Lundberg, who attributes to the autopsy what it cannot possibly prove. As to a degree Humes and Boswell also do.

I believe that it is not the exclusive purpose of an autopsy to establish the cause of death? Am I correct in this? And do you know of a simple source I can quote in stating what the purpose(s) are? As well as what is required by way of examinations. Or, the responsibilities of those who perform an autopsy on a death by gunshot.

My health has not improved and I suppose that I'm probably fortunate that it has not deteriorated more. I'm 79 now and I look forward to our 50th wedding anniversary the 3rd of next month. But some months ago, not on the initiative of any of my doctors but by my own persistence after they prescribed what could kill me to help me stay asleep I learned that in addition to all the other things, some of which you do not know about, I also have sleep apnea. The wonderful sleep-disturbance people at the Johns Hopkins research center, after the tests, prescribed a C-PAP. That alone gave me respiratory problems so they added a humidifying attachment. But my nose is so dry I can't use it until this business clears up. Now that I know what it is and how it manifests itself I am confident that I've had it for quite some time and that it has been gradually worsening. Most nights I do not get two uninterrupted hours of sleep and every morning I'm wide awake much too soon. I now try to be abed by 7 so I can get some sleep but being wide awake before midnight is not uncommon. However, I then can work without interruption and when I can I grab a short nap.

Thanks if you can help, and best wishes,

David